Agricultural loans

277. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of middle-class farmers, marginal farmers and rich farmers who applied for agricultural loans in the year 2003-04;

(b) the number of farmers of different categories who actually received loans;

(c) the number of farmers of each category who were getting agricultural loans and were refused in the year 2003-04, State-wise; and

(d) the plans of Government to provide loans to the farmers in the year 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The data compilation sytem of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, the number of borrowal accounts in respect of scheduled commercial banks according to the size of land holding of farmers as at the end of June 2002 is as under:

Marginal Farmers (land holding up to 2.5 acres)		Small Farmers (land holding above 2.5 to 5 acres)		Other Farmers (land holding above 5 acres)	
No. of A/c in respect of Amount Dispersed	No. of A/c in respect of Amount Outstanding	No. of A/c in respect of Amount Dispersed	No. of A/c in respect of Amount Outstanding	No. of A/c in respect of Amount Dispersed	No. of A/c in respect of Amount Outstanding
2678561	4901589	1933007	3980779	2358451	3394375

(d) Government has announced on 18th June, 2004 a plan of action to increase the Ground Level Credit Flow to Agriculture by 30% during the current financial year.

GDP Growth Rate

278. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that GDP growth rate is expected to grow over 8 per cent during the current fiscal;